Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. Governor

Michael S. Steele Lt. Governor Mary Ann Saar Secretary

Contact: Mark Vernarelli (410) 339-5065

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GOVERNOR EHRLICH HONORS DPSCS EMPLOYEES FOR HURRICANE KATRINA RELIEF EFFORT

TOWSON, MD (January 21, 2006)---Governor Ehrlich honored dozens of DPSCS employees who contributed to a major fundraising drive for Hurricane Katrina victims with a special reception at the State House on January 20.

In all, DPSCS employees raised more than \$15,000 in cash and first aid and other commodities for Louisiana victims, and sent five tractor-trailer loads of relief supplies directly to the Louisiana Department of Corrections.

"Your donations of food, clothing, water, and other essential items helped sustain security and shelter operations for employees and evacuees who were left with little or nothing," said Richard Stalder, Louisiana's Corrections Secretary.

During the hour-long event at the beautiful Reception Room of the State House, the Governor presented certificates and awards to a number of DPSCS personnel, including the employees of Maryland Correctional Enterprises who drove the tractor-trailer loads of supplies and slept on the floor of a Louisiana warehouse.

DPSCS Secretary Mary Ann Saar praised her employees for their quick response. The relief effort, organized by Deputy DPSCS Secretary Dr. Mary Livers, also featured special fundraising efforts by the Division of Parole and Probation and above-and-beyond personal efforts like that of Assistant Division of Correction Commissioner Ronald Hutchinson, who gave \$1,000.

###

Public Trust, Public Service, Public Safety